
NEWS RELEASE

Immediate Release: 10th June 2010

Genetic Alliance UK archives given top priority by The Wellcome Library

Genetic Alliance UK (formerly Genetic Interest Group) is extremely proud to announce that all our key charity documents are now at The Wellcome Library archives. Our records are seen as a high priority and will be fast tracked into the famous Wellcome Library, Part of the Wellcome Trust. The Wellcome Library is keen to archive internal and external communication documents from our patient organisation due to our significant impact on health and policy. This means that all key publications and formal documents such as Trustee Board Minutes and newsletters will be archived, along with digital records including our responses to Government consultations and all our patient information leaflets which appear on our website. This resource, adding to others, will enable researchers to gather a clear picture of the development of patient organisations in the UK and see how patient groups have developed, influenced and pushed for improvements in the healthcare we receive.

Genetic Alliance UK was founded in 1990 and as a small organisation having our key outputs collected in this way is a huge acknowledgement and testament to our work.

Alastair Kent, Director commented, "It was extremely gratifying to be considered an organisation worthy of this sort of archiving. Having our work saved in this way will not only mean that activities are preserved for future researchers but also that we are able to reach an even wider audience who will learn about the work of our charity and the lives of those affected by genetic conditions".

Simon Chaplin, Head of Wellcome Library, "It is vital that the Wellcome Library documents the tremendous changes that our understanding of genetics has made to modern medicine, and to the lives of those affected by genetic conditions. By working with Genetic Alliance UK to preserve their archives, we can enable future generations to understand this important period in the history of medical science."

The Wellcome Library holds one of the world's greatest collections of books, archives, pictures and recordings relating to the history of medicine. As part of a major transformation strategy, the Library is actively acquiring archive and other material relating to key areas of modern medical science, including genetics.

– Ends –



Genetic Alliance UK
Supporting. Campaigning. Uniting.

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Notes to Editors

About Genetic Alliance UK

Genetic Alliance UK is the national charity of over 130 patient organisations, supporting all those affected by genetic conditions.

Supporting

We seek to raise awareness of genetic conditions and improve the quality of services and information available to patients and families.

Campaigning

We actively campaign on issues of policy and practice to influence governments, policy makers, industry and care providers such as the National Health Service.

Uniting

We provide a united voice for all those affected by genetic conditions, enabling us to work together towards a common goal of making life better for patients and families at risk.

As an organisation focusing on issues of policy and practice Genetic Alliance UK keeps an active watch on developments in the UK and Europe that will influence the effective transfer of knowledge and understanding into products and services for families that are supported by our member groups.

In a potentially controversial field like genetics Genetic Alliance UK provides a strong voice advocating the benefits of scientific progress in understanding the contribution being made now and that will be made in the years to come for improving health and combating many currently incurable diseases.

For more information please go to www.geneticalliance.org.uk

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